ON THE ISSUE OF DAWAH IN THE WEST

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Question:

There is a problem between two *masaajids*, I will explain to you the problem ya Shaykh.¹

Shaykh:

Go ahead and explain.

Questioner:

Some of the brothers were trying to raise some money and call the laymen and other than them from the *Hizbiyeen*, and this happen in a public park. And it's a day that takes place every year where all the Muslims attend it. All the Muslims in this state come to this park. They come for relaxation and entertainment, and there are things for sale there...

Shaykh:

Like getting to know each other...

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¹ This was asked by the brother Aboo Khaleel Jadd Sylvester on behalf of some brothers in Atlanta (Georgia), USA.

Questioner:

The brothers that went, they asked Shaykh Hasan ibn Abdul Wahhaab al-Banna (May Allaah protect him) in Egypt. And he said that as long as you don't participate with them in their religious activities. And he said there is no problem in going there, and calling the people to Salafiyyah. And Alhamdulillaah the brothers went and that day one of the non-Muslims embraced Islaam, by the grace of Allaah through these brothers. And the brothers sold tapes, they sold CDs, and the Salafi books also. Some of the people that work in the TV station, they had an interview with one of the brother and they asked the brother what you are calling to. He said "we call to the Qur'aan and Sunnah", and this of course appeared on TV. Now, the other masjid sent an email criticizing them severely as to why they went there.

(The Shaikh interrupted and said...)

Shaykh:

So they criticized them because they went to clarify to the people the book of Allaah and the *Sunnah* of the Prophet (sallallaahu alayhi wassallam)?

Questioner:

Yes Shaykh, they criticized them because they went to a gathering that has everybody, *Hizbiyyeen* and other than them. What is your comment on these statements Ya Shaykh?

Shaykh:

What we say, BarakAllahu Feekum, if this gathering was in the name of the Muslims, in one place, and everyone has his own activities, you set your tapes and *dawah* material and they set up theirs. You set up your book store and everything like that. And the other ones like the *Hizbiyeen* set theirs. We say it is a requirement upon you to attend these types of activities. It is a requirement upon you, and there should be no difference of opinion on this because the arena should not be left without a call to the *Sunnah*! Do you understand?

Questioner:

I understand, Ya Shaykh.

Shaykh:

Do not leave the arena free for them (Hizbiyyeen) to do what they want, except that you are there. There should be a voice in this gathering for the Salafiyyeen. You must go! And reserve a specific place where you set up your books and tapes to sell. If someone comes to ask you about your methodology whether it is Radio stations or TV, then you inform them about your dawah. And this could be mandatory in that Country of America and Europe and other countries. It is not permissible to differ on this issue, by saying that we should not attend the gathering of the Hizbiyyeen, and other than them. No! As long as they express they there activities, and you are on one side calling to your Dawah. I've seen like this in London, everyone calls to his own methodology, so you the Salafiyyoon do not leave the arena free for them! Do not leave the arena free for them to lay there eggs and have their chicks! If there is anyone calling to partisanship then you call to the party of Allah and the Sunnah of the

Messenger of Allaah, and it is *Waajib*, and we should not differ on this! And we should not differ on this, that we should not go because there are *Hizhiyyeen* there. If you are far away and your voice is not heard the people will not know about you, and your personality is not known, and the people don't know your *Salafi* methodology. You *have* to go to these types of gatherings. And if it is as you have mentioned, that the people in the TV station came and asked about your methodology, and you said that you call to the Book of Allah and the *Sunnah* of the Prophet (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*), this is the greatest success for you in attending these gatherings! The world knows and even the *kuffaar* know that *Salafiyyah* is the true *deen*! For that reason it is mandatory for you to attend those gatherings, and rather attend it! Even if they call you to their gatherings then clarify to them the truth, and let them hear your voice. Whether they accept it or don't except it you *must* go my brother!

Questioner:

Barak Allahu Feekum Ya Shaykh!